

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) An ink cartridge ~~in which ink is contained in~~comprising:
a container body, ~~having in which ink is stored, including~~
an ink supply port ~~for supplying the ink to a recording head by~~
~~engaging~~engageable with an ink supply needle communicating with ~~the~~a recording head in a
~~state of being mounted to an ink cartridge mounting portion of a recording apparatus, so that~~
the ink is supplied to the recording head when said ink cartridge comprising is mounted in a
mounting portion, and

a retaining member having a projected portion engageable ~~to and disengageable~~
~~from~~with an engaging portion formed ~~at the ink cartridge in the~~in the mounting portion; ~~and~~
wherein a valve means~~device~~ having biasing ~~means~~member is provided ~~at the in~~
said ink supply port; and, normally keeping a closed state of the valve means and opening the
valve means

said biasing member is configured to normally keep closed said valve device,
and when the ink supply needle is inserted to said ink supply port, said valve device is opened
against said biasing member to resiliently abut the~~said~~projected portion to the engaged~~said~~
engaging portion in a state of insertion of the ink supply needle.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The ink cartridge according to Claim 1-~~or~~2, wherein the valve ~~means comprises~~device includes a valve body and a coil spring.

4. (Currently amended) The ink cartridge according to Claim 1-~~or~~2, wherein ~~the~~said container body is provided with a projected portion for a stopper capable of pivoting ~~the~~said retaining member ~~to a degree by which the~~such that said projected portion ~~can be detached~~is detachable from the ink cartridge mounting portion.

5. (Currently amended) The ink cartridge according to Claim 1-~~or~~2, wherein ~~the~~said biasing ~~means~~member is provided with a length and an elastic force ~~to a degree of moving~~such that said biasing member moves a claw portion of ~~the~~said retaining member to outside of ~~the region of the~~said recessed portion when an engagement between ~~the~~said retaining member and the carriage is released.

6. (Currently amended) The ink cartridge according to Claim 1-~~or~~2, wherein a stress ~~of the~~provided by said biasing ~~means~~member is set to a range of 200g through 700g ~~at a time point of finishing to mount the~~when said cartridge is mounted.

7. (Currently amended) The ink cartridge according to Claim 1-~~or~~2, wherein ~~the~~said valve ~~means comprises~~device includes a sealing member for resiliently abutting a surrounding of the ink supply needle,

a valve body brought into contact with ~~the~~said sealing member and ~~the~~said biasing ~~means~~member for pressing ~~the~~said valve body to ~~the~~said sealing member.

8. (Currently amended) The ink cartridge according to Claim 1-~~or~~2, wherein ~~the~~said biasing ~~means~~member is provided with an elastic force ~~to a degree by which the~~such ~~that said~~ container body is moved in a direction opposed to an insertion direction against a friction force between ~~the~~said sealing member and the ink supply needle when ~~the~~said biasing ~~means~~member releases an engagement between ~~the~~said retaining member and the carriage mounting portion.

9. (New) An ink cartridge comprising:
a container body, in which ink is storable including
an ink supply port engageable with an ink supply needle communicating with a recording head in a recording apparatus, so that the ink is supplied to said recording head when said ink cartridge is mounted in a mounting portion,
a retaining member formed on a first wall surface of said container body and having a projected portion engageable with an engaging portion formed in said mounting portion, and
a pressed portion is formed on a second wall surface of said container body opposed to said first wall surface, an upper surface of said pressed portion being pressed by a member of said recording apparatus
wherein a valve device having a biasing member is provided in said ink supply port; and
said biasing member is configured to normally keep closing said valve device, and when said ink supply needle is inserted to said ink supply port, said valve device is opened

against said biasing member so as to resiliently abut said projected portion to said engaging portion and to resiliently abut said pressed portion to said member of said recording apparatus.

10. (New) The ink cartridge according to Claim 9, wherein said valve device includes a valve body and a coil spring.

11. (New) The ink cartridge according to Claim 9, wherein said container body is provided with a projected portion for a stopper capable of pivoting said retaining member such that said projected portion is detachable from said mounting portion.

12. (New) The ink cartridge according to Claim 9, wherein said biasing member is provided with a length and an elastic force such that said biasing member moves a claw portion of said retaining member to outside of said recessed portion when an engagement between said retaining member and said mounting portion is released.

13. (New) The ink cartridge according to Claim 9, wherein a stress provided by said biasing member is set to a range of 200g through 700g when said cartridge is mounted:

14. (New) The ink cartridge according to Claim 9, wherein said valve device includes a sealing member for resiliently abutting a surrounding of said ink supply needle, a valve body brought into contact with said sealing member and said biasing member for pressing said valve body to said sealing member.

15. (New) The ink cartridge according to claim 9, wherein said biasing member is provided with an elastic force such that said container body is moved in a direction. opposed

to an insertion direction against a friction force between said sealing member and :said ink supply needle when said biasing member releases an engagement between said retaining member and said mounting portion.